

THE FRIENDS

Lakes Country Public Library



REPORT

Winter 2025 

Garden Crew Prepares Beds for Winter



This crew had the tools and muscle it took to conduct fall clean up. Pictured from left to right: Nancy Gardebrecht, Mark and Debbie Valdovios, Bonnie Nygard, Margaret Brubaker (lead gardener) Deb Kruger, Barry Brubaker, and Laura Cerletty

Another Successful Bake Sale

Twenty-three Friends created an abundance of baked goods resulting in another bake sale record. The profit was \$1656. Thank you to all of the Friends who organized the event, baked, set up, and sold. It was truly a team effort.



Margaret Brubaker and Jill Honeck set up the sale at Lakewood SuperValu. Helping but not pictured, Lydia Bessert.



The closers, Kathleen Marsh and Linda McKenna make sure every baked item finds a home.

Book Discussion Group

Always Welcoming New Members

The Book Discussion Group has had many names over the years but two things have remained constant. This group loves lively discussion and laughter. If you enjoy reading and analyzing content, consider finding out more by attending a meeting. The group meets the first Thursday of every month so the next meeting is January 2nd at 11am and they'll be discussing *The Christmas Shoes* by Donna VanLiere. You'll find the group located in the Community Room. All are welcome.



Friends Donate Christmas Tree

After a successful year of fundraising, the Friends were able to provide the funds needed for a Library Christmas Tree. We hope you got a chance to enjoy it.



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Classes Build Community

Since the completion of the Building Expansion Project, it has been much easier for classes to be held at the Library. The Friends have hosted many of these educational events with the unexpected but gratifying outcome of participants forming new friendships. With the start of the new year, consider joining a class and meeting your northwoods neighbors. Upcoming classes are typically posted on the Library website or bulletin board. If you are a member of the Friends you may also receive an email announcing class registration.



German Stars, taught by Margaret Brubaker, has been a favorite art class for many years.

Friends Membership Dues Put to Good Use

When you fill out your Friends Membership Form, you have an opportunity to donate money for new books. Katie Essermann, the director of the library, then purchases books in the category you have selected. Here are just some of the titles purchased this year.



Membership Continues to Grow

In 2024, the Friends made a concerted effort to increase membership and we can proudly say that our efforts paid off. Lydia Bessert, Friend's Treasurer, reported that as of November 11th the Friends have 125 members and 42 of them are new.

2024 Financial Summary

In 2024, the Friends of the Library sponsored many fundraisers which supported the needs of the library. A + sign after an event reflects an increase from last year. A * indicates a new fundraiser. Overall, we raised \$1237 more than last year.

Income:

Membership Dues	\$ 1020+
Book Sales	\$ 1711
Market Day	\$ 768+
Brat Sales	\$ 1348
Festifall	\$ 880+
Bake Sale	\$ 1656+
Donations	\$ 1460+
Friends Merchandise	\$ 260*
Total	\$ 9103+

Distributions:

Summer reading program, interns, books and media, programming, garden **\$ 6918**

Time To Renew Your Membership

The Friends support the Library, a vital entity of our community, in a variety of ways: membership financial contributions, volunteering at fundraisers, tending the gardens, teaching classes, and baking or cooking for community events. We hope you will renew your membership and encourage others to join this fun and rewarding organization.

How to sign up:

- Print and fill out the attached form. You can also pick up a form at the library.
- Return the form with your \$10 payment to the library in person or via postal service.